



Missouri Ethics Commission 2009 Calendar Year At a Glance

Introduction

The Missouri Ethics Commission serves the public interest by assisting and educating the citizens of Missouri, public officials, lobbyists, and individuals participating in public elections while consistently and uniformly enforcing campaign finance, conflict of interest, and lobbying laws.

The Commission takes these responsibilities seriously and strives to provide the best possible customer service. The Commission is non-partisan in the investigations conducted and application of the laws and regulations governing the Commission activities.

Assisting and Educating

The Commission receives filings and assists campaign finance, lobbyist, and personal financial disclosure filers. Individuals needing assistance receive help at the Commission's Jefferson City location in person, by telephone, or email at helpdesk@mec.mo.gov. The Commission's responsibilities also include providing clear, relevant information to the public about the filings and Missouri laws.

2009 Initiatives

Web Enhancements: Accessible and transparent

- ✓ Redesigned website
- ✓ New campaign finance web searches
 - *Contributions over \$5,000*
 - *Contributions and Expenditures*
- ✓ Electronic filing for political subdivisions regarding annual operating budgets and designation of individuals required to file Personal Financial Disclosures






Publications and Brochures: Information and education

- ✓ Quarterly *MEC e-Newsletter*
- ✓ Quick reference *Fact Sheets* on campaign finance, complaints, lobbyist, and personal financial disclosure
- ✓ *Campaign Materials Identification Requirements* brochure
- ✓ *Annual Ethics Guide* (redesign of Plain English Summary)
- ✓ *Election Deadlines and Reminders* publications for candidates

Training: Information and education

- ✓ Campaign Finance Record Keeping and Reporting seminars
- ✓ Regional Campaign Finance seminars in partnership with local election authorities

2009 Filings and Reports

Filing/Report Types	Number	Click  for More Info.
Campaign Finance Filings	7,908	
Campaign Finance Committees	2,233	
Lobbyists Registered	1,196	
Personal Financial Disclosures	8,324	

Advisory Opinions	Number Issued
Campaign Finance	0
Conflict of Interest	5
Lobbying	0
Total for 2009	5

Enforcement

2009 Investigations

The Commission performs investigations on receipt of a written complaint and may perform investigations of reports, statements, or filings required in Chapters 105 and 130, RSMo. Investigations may be performed related to violations of:

- ✓ Campaign Finance
- ✓ Codes of Conduct
- ✓ Conflict of Interest
- ✓ Lobbying
- ✓ Personal Financial Disclosure
- ✓ Orders, ordinances, or resolutions dealing with an official's conduct (including constitutional provisions and state statutes)

Investigations must remain confidential, as required by state law, except for the Commission's final actions. Within 5 days of initiating an investigation, the Commission notifies the parties, as required by statute.

Case Type	Number
Campaign Finance	84
Codes of Conduct	0
Conflict of Interest	40
Lobbying	0
Personal Financial Disclosure	2
Orders, ordinances or resolutions dealing with an official's conduct (including constitutional provisions and state statutes)	5
Use of Public Funds	34
Total for 2009	165

Commission Enforcement Actions	%	Number	Amount	Click ? for More Info.
Assessed Financial Penalties	30	49	\$ 431,642.00	?
Closed Case with Letter	4	6	n/a	
Dismissed Unsubstantiated Complaint	59	98	n/a	
Other Imposed Sanctions	7	12	n/a	
Total	100 %	165	\$ 431,642.00	
Assessed Late Filing Fees	n/a	463	\$ 62,740.00	?

TIP:
View FAQs
located on
our website

Financial Penalties Assessed	All Actions	Legislative/ Statewide Office Candidate Committee
Largest Assessed	\$ 124,212.00	\$ 15,800.00
Largest Required Payment	\$ 12,421.00	\$ 4,000.00
Smallest Assessed	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,000.00
Average Assessed	\$ 8,809.02	\$ 5,466.67

Definitions of Enforcement Actions:

Assessed Financial Penalties: The Commission may assess financial penalties with a portion of the financial penalty due immediately. The remainder of the financial penalty may be stayed conditional upon compliance with applicable statutes and no further violations.

Dismissed: The Commission must find probable cause that a violation has occurred to impose any sanction. If probable cause is not found, the Commission must dismiss the case.

Other Imposed Sanctions: Other sanctions can include notifying the appropriate disciplinary authority or issuing a letter of reprimand.

2009 Candidate Disqualification

Candidates for public office are required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement within 14 days after the filing closing date for the office the candidate is seeking nomination/election. If the individual becomes a candidate after the candidate certification date, the Personal Financial Disclosure Statement must be filed within 14 days of the individual's nomination. The commission notifies the official who accepted the declaration of candidacy of a candidate's failure to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement and thus disqualification from the ballot.

Candidate Disqualification	# of Candidates	County
Election:		
April 7 th , 2009	1	Christian
February 2 nd , 2010	1	Stone